

We claim

1. A method for regulating access to nonvolatile digital storage contained in a device executing instructions in a Turing-complete interpreter, said method comprising

5 (a) receiving a request from said instructions being executed, wherein said request specifies:

(i) a portion of said storage for which access is requested, and

(ii) a plurality of additional executable instructions;

10 (b) applying a cryptographic hash function to said additional executable instructions to obtain a hash value;

(c) authenticating said hash value; and

(d) provided that said authentication is successful, enabling access by said instructions being executed to said requested portion of said storage while executing said additional executable instructions.

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2. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of authenticating comprises comparing said hash value with a hash value stored in said nonvolatile storage.

20 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of authenticating comprises verifying a digital signature provided by said instructions being executed.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said request includes a pointer to said additional executable instructions in memory accessible by said instructions being executed and contained in said device.

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5. A digital optical disc medium containing encrypted audiovisual content for playback on any of a plurality of device architectures, said digital optical disc medium comprising program logic configured to:

(a) identify at least one characteristic of a device executing said program logic;